

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) An orthopedic implant comprising at least one bore (2) intended to receive a fixation screw (3) integral with a head (4) and an anti-slip device (5); characterized in that the anti-slip device (5) comprises:

- at least one circular seat (6, 7; 17; 11; 13, 14) which is offset axially relative to the main axes XX' YY' of the bore (2),
- and at least one retaining means (8; 10; 12; 15, 16) which cooperates with the corresponding seat so that said retaining means passes partially through the corresponding bore (2) receiving the and fixation screw (3) in order to be able to deform elastically under a pressure stress in order to allow the screw (3) to be passed into and installed in its bore (2), while the retaining means returns to an original, non-deformed, position upon removal of the pressure stress, so as to be located above the head (4) of the screw (3) in order to prevent the latter from being displaced relative to the implant (1) in a direction parallel to the longitudinal axis of the bore (2), and

characterized in that the position of the circular seat (17) is intended to open into at least two bores (2) in order to allow the retaining means formed by an open washer (10) to pass partially through the two bores (2), and

characterized in that the open washer (10) is arranged in the circular seat (17) in such a way that its opening (18) is placed above one of the bores (2) so as to be able to deform elastically.

2. (original) The orthopedic implant as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the anti-slip device (5) comprises, in the same horizontal plane, a seat (6) of small diameter comprising a clearance space (7) opening inside the bore (2) and a retaining means which is formed by a rod (8), one part of which is fixed in the seat (6) in such a way that the other part passes partially through the bore (2) and opens out inside the clearance space (7) in order to deform elastically in flexion under a pressure stress.

3. (original) The orthopedic implant as claimed in claim 2, characterized in the rod (8) passes through the bore (2) of the implant (1) in a direction which is remote from the point of intersection of the axes XX' and YY'.

4. (original) The orthopedic implant as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the rod (8), the hole (6) and the space (7) are arranged in the same horizontal plane which is perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the bore (2).

5. (currently amended) The orthopedic implant as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that it comprises, in the same horizontal plane, a~~ wherein the one seat [[which]] is formed by a circular groove (17) offset axially relative to the main axes XX' and YY' of the bore (2) in such a way that the retaining means formed by an open washer (10) passes partially through the bore (2).

6-7. (cancelled)

8. (original) The orthopedic implant as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that it comprises, in the same horizontal plane, a seat which is formed by a space (11) whose opposite edges are inclined in order to present a V-shaped profile and a retaining means which is formed by a rod (12) of the same profile introduced into the V-shaped space (11) in order to deform elastically in flexion under a pressure stress.

9. (original) The orthopedic implant as claimed in claim 8, characterized in that the rod (12) is arranged inside the V-shaped space (11) so that, on both sides of the point of insertion of the axes XX' and YY', the bore (2) is traversed at least partially by the inclined branches of said rod.

10. (original) The orthopedic implant as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that it comprises, in the same horizontal plane, a seat which is formed by two parallel holes (13, 14) opening inside the bore (2) of the implant (1) and a

retaining means which is formed by two rods (15, 16) cooperating respectively with the holes (13, 14) in order to deform elastically in flexion under a pressure stress.

11. (original) The orthopedic implant as claimed in claim 10, characterized in that the holes (13, 14) are provided to pass through the bore (2), each side of the point of intersection of the main axes XX' and YY' and in a direction parallel to that of the axis YY'.

12. (original) The orthopedic implant as claimed in claim 10, characterized in that the holes (13, 14) are provided to pass through the bore (2), each side of the point of intersection of the main axes XX' and YY' and in a direction parallel to that of the axis XX'.

13. (new) An orthopedic implant, comprising:

a first bore (2) to receive a fixation first screw (3) having a first screw head (4),

the first bore have a first screw head lodging part to lodge the first screw head; and

an anti-slip device (5) located above the first screw head lodging part,

the first bore always being attached to the anti-slip device,

the anti-slip device comprising

a seat (17) offset axially relative to a main axes (XX', YY') of the first bore, the seat open to the first bore, and

a retainer cooperating with the seat so that the retainer passes partially into the first bore whenever the first screw is not being inserted into the first bore,

the retainer being elastically deformable, when the first screw is being inserted into the first bore, under a screw insertion pressure stress in order to displace the retainer and allow the first screw to be passed into and installed in the first bore,

the retainer, upon full insertion of the first screw, returning to an original, non-deformed, position with the retainer positioned above the first screw head of the fully-inserted first screw preventing displacement of the fully-inserted first screw in an outward direction parallel to a longitudinal axis of the first bore.

14. (new) The implant of claim 13, wherein the retainer is a open washer with ends extending into the first bore.

15. (new) The implant of claim 14, wherein the washer ends deform under the pressure stress of inserting the first screw to move the ends out of the first bore.

16. (new) The implant of claim 15, further comprising a second bore to accept a second screw with a second screw head, the retainer extending into the second bore,

the retainer ends extending only into the first bore,
the retainer, when the second screw is being inserted into the second bore, under the pressure stress being displaceable to move out of the second bore to allow the second screw to be passed into and installed in the second bore,

the retainer, upon full insertion of the second screw, returning to an original, non-deformed, position with the retainer positioned above the second screw head of the fully-inserted second screw preventing displacement of the fully-inserted second screw in an outward direction parallel to a longitudinal axis of the second bore.

17. (new) An orthopedic implant, comprising:

an anti-slip device (5);

a first bore (2) to receive a fixation first screw (3) having a first screw head (4), the first bore attached to the anti-slip device,

the anti-slip device comprising

an opening with a seat offset axially relative to a main axes (XX' , YY') of the first bore, the seat open to the first bore, and

a retainer mounted in the seat, the retainer extending into the first bore,

the retainer being elastically deformable, under a pressure stress from inserting the first screw into the first

bore, to displace the retainer into the opening and allow the first screw to be passed into and installed in the first bore,

the retainer, upon full insertion of the first screw, returning to an original, non-deformed, position with the retainer positioned above the first screw head of the fully-inserted first screw preventing displacement of the fully-inserted first screw in an outward direction parallel to a longitudinal axis of the first bore.

18. (new) The implant of claim 17, wherein the retainer is a open washer with ends extending into the first bore.

19. (new) The implant of claim 18, wherein the washer ends deform under the pressure stress of inserting the first screw to move the ends out of the first bore.

20. (new) The implant of claim 19, further comprising a second bore to accept a second screw with a second screw head,

the retainer extending into the second bore,

the retainer ends extending only into the first bore,

the retainer, when the second screw is being inserted into the second bore, under the pressure stress being displaceable to move out of the second bore to allow the second screw to be passed into and installed in the second bore,

the retainer, upon full insertion of the second screw, returning to an original, non-deformed, position with the retainer positioned above the second screw head of the fully-inserted second screw preventing displacement of the fully-

inserted second screw in an outward direction parallel to a longitudinal axis of the second bore.